

# B. Williams & Co.

you the highest insulation possible under the circumstances.

In view of the above condition of affairs I think it would be the policy for the city to discard the present engines, with the exception of the lamps and dynamos, and procure the very best apparatus available to take its place. I would recommend that the present engines be set aside and a 150 horse-power, high-speed automatic engine substituted in their place. The Corliss engine is looked upon as an engine of very high economy. The advocates of slow speed engines claim less cost per horse-power and less cost of attendance and repair; but this engine in its best form of Corliss type was practically a perfect model at the beginning of the commercial development of electric lighting, while the high speed engines have since then have developed with the electrical industries. As it would be necessary with compound engines to carry a greatly increased pressure, I would advise that the most appropriate type of water tube boiler be installed in the place of the tubular boilers. Referring again to the power house on Yates street, I would suggest that if the corporation of Victoria decide to retain the existing station at that place, that they should have the dynamos now in use and place them in the tramway power house and run them from that station until the new machinery had been put into the Yates street station and thoroughly tested.

I would suggest that the engines be placed near the front of the building, the shaft be taken out and the dynamos be belted direct to the engine. The engine would run four 50 light machines. The shaft would run on each fly wheel of the engine. A further increase could be put in without disturbing the plant in operation. If the city decide to build a new power-house, I would suggest that the new plant be placed in Victoria West, somewhere along the line of the E. & N. railway. The additional line construction from Victoria would connect with the present lines and would be a great deal less expensive with other advantages. Here I would suggest that the distance from your centre of distribution would make no difference in the operation of the plant. In fact it is a ten, twelve or even fourteen mile circuit is no means uncommon. The city of Olympia, Washington, has its arc dynamos placed at Tuna-water falls, about six miles from the centre of distribution. This would be a longer circuit than from Victoria West to Oak Bay. Before procuring the engine in Victoria West I would suggest that a careful enquiry be made as to the cost of fuel delivered there, as this question would be an important factor in making your decision. Another point in favor of Victoria West is that if you decide to run compound engines, you would need a large quantity of water for your condensation; Victoria West the water could be pumped in by no means uneconomical at no cost except that of operating the pump. In Yates street you would doubtless be obliged to use water from the city water mains, which would be a very expensive and, I might say, any accident happens to the mains, cause considerable trouble. Another point to be considered in moving the station to Victoria West would be the cost of the valves. However, the removal of the plant would in no way interfere with the re-modelling of the works; as a good station could be put in at the present location, but I think it could be operated for a little less money from Victoria West.

It might be possible to build the plant at the foot of a street where it would not in any way interfere with traffic, and the city be at no expense for a building site. Of course, is a matter for you to decide.

Referring again to the fire alarm system. I find that it is running partly on the city's poles, partly on the telephone poles, and in fact on the poles of nearly every electric company in the city. I would suggest that in building the new pole line, which is urgently needed for your lighting service (to say nothing of the needs of the fire alarm system), that the poles be of the high character; to put the fire alarm wires at least three feet above the lighting wires, and that in all places where the fire alarm wires crossed under the wires of other companies, the guard wires be placed on the pole top and high guard rail on each side of the wires, making three guard wires in all. This would effectually protect your fire alarm wires against any interference from other systems, and I have no doubt would serve to reduce the number of false alarms, the false alarms coming in, and at the same time do away with two-thirds of your battery trouble. I believe a great deal of fault has been found with your men in charge of the fire alarm system and the lighting plant. Perhaps in some cases the complaint may have had just cause, of this I can say nothing, but at the same time I deem it an act of simple justice to the city's employees to say that so far as I have been able to learn, the men seem to be doing their duty conscientiously, and I do not think that a change would in any way benefit the city. In fact I have been somewhat surprised to find that the men have been so well under the existing circumstances.

It may be said that the council is likely not to accept the Victoria West proposal as for the transmission of power by cable is a more reliable or better. The same reasoning, however, will apply elsewhere, and anyhow the objections stated may be overcome.

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**GLADSTONE**

The Venerable  
Attacked While Hastening  
He Was Attending at Broc

At Which all the Present—One of the Cold is Serious—Light of It—McGowan's Leader.

London, March 7.—Mr Gladstone is confined to his bed. He became chilled by the weather and is suffering from cold.

Mr. Gladstone had tonight, but physicians regarded his condition dangerous while walking home from where he had dined with guests in the ministry, and chills and upon reaching put to bed. Mr. Gladstone having physicians call only slightly indisposed was called nevertheless the doctors in attendance stone said this afternoon was no immediate danger take a serious turn at it.

London, March 7.—A containing explosives at street police station examination is being made.

Emphatically Berlin, March 7.—Dr minister of finance, after the report that he intended office.

The British in London, March 7.—Bathurst, Gambia, that Rear-Admiral Be ship Raleigh, reports that were attacked by the Fodisalah while advancing of Banjir yesterday British were wounded, five the natives were the British took possession, which they burned down very heavy.

Another Batch of Paris, March 7.—Seven were arrested by the police.

Commercial Cable Co. Montreal, March 7.—The of the Commercial field in New York yesterday quarterly dividend of quarters per cent. A stock of the company payable on the 2nd of net earnings, and for transfer books will be closed on the 21st March April 3rd.

Imperial Parliament London, March 7.—It is made, officially, that stone will succeed Shave commissioner in the cabinet.

Denouncing The London, March 7.—The Irish McCarthyite pinning their leader for his Lord Rosebery.

Eastern Canada Ottawa, Ont., Many darts arrangement will turns out to be that agree to give him a salary a year if he forms a strict forty twenty knuckle of earning what "class freight." The independent, are before the mess of capitalists to him.

Hon. Mr. de Bouchet this afternoon in company J. Ross, Quebec. It is Boucerville is being a cabinet.

Montreal, Que. Mar to be generally understood Folger, of Kingston, is manager of the Richelieu navigation company. At present in the city and board of directors this the appointment will be Folger has had wide experience in boat enterprises and prove an efficient manager.

Nearing The Bar Plymouth, Pa., March work in Gaylor Mine we leave the mine this morning the fearful stench of dis This believed that the exhausted miners are clo infestants will be used a third.

Protection of St Washington, D. C., positively stated that will make no change in the question of protection Behring sea. The regular O'reary bill, recently introduced, are considered of the Paris tribunal, and is not likely, it is said, to pass.

Behring Sea Fisheries Washington, D. C., Ministers problem for the season to secure a sufficient catch to carry out the arbitrators respecting the waters. At present the available at San Francisco, under repairs at M